



# NEWS RELEASE

Office of the  
United States Attorney  
for the  
District of Nebraska  
**Joe W. Stecher**

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May 28, 2009

United States Attorney Joe W. Stecher and the Lincoln Police Department and Lancaster County Sheriff's Office announce the following information for the attention of the media:

**Event Triggering this Release:** A one count indictment was unsealed by United States Magistrate Judge David L. Piester. The indictment charges Natalie Booth-Merica with conspiring to distribute 50 grams or more of a substance containing a detectable amount of methamphetamine in 2008. It is alleged that Booth-Merica conspired with a number of individuals in the Lincoln area to distribute the drugs.

**Name of Defendant:** Natalie Nicole Booth-Merica

**AKA:** Booth

**Age:** 24

**City of residence:** Omaha

**Crime(s) Charged and Potential Penalty** (A CHARGE is merely an accusation and every defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty)

Conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine (substance)

five to 40 years prison, up to \$2,000,000 fine, not less than four years supervised release

**Specific Location of Alleged Crime:** Nebraska

**Location of Arrest:**

**Alleged Dollar Loss/Type and Quantity of Drug:** over 50 grams of methamphetamine

**Others Charged in Same Scheme:**

**Relevant Dates:**

**Date of Alleged Crime:** January 1 through December 31, 2008

**Federal Arrest Date:** May 26, 2009

**Date Complaint Issued:**

**Indictment Returned Date:** May 20, 2009

**Initial Appearance Date:** May 27, 2009

**Plea or Trial and Date(s):** Trial July 27, 2009

**Sentencing Date:**

**Next Court Hearing Type and Date:** detention hearing June 1, 2009

**Assigned Magistrate Judge:** David L., Piester

**Held without Bond, or Released from Custody:** held without bond

**In Continuous Custody Since:**

**Assigned District Court Judge:** Richard G. Kopf

**Initials of Assigned SAUSA/Preparer of THIS Release:** jml